	Name of the college		1998-99	1999-2000
26.	SSMD Ay.urved Medical College, Moga		20	—
	Total seats reduced:	80	30	
UTTAR PRADESH				
27.	Doon Ayurved Mahavidyalaya, Dehradun		30 (Not permitted)	—
28.	Himalaya Ayurved Medical College, Bareilly		30 (Not permitted)	—
	Total seats reduced:		60	
TOTAL:			245	260

Note: "Not permitted" reflects the number of seats which were permitted by the Central Council earlier but the College was not allowed to admit the batch in the relevant year.

Expensive cancer treatment in the country

693. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that treatment of cancer in hospitals in the country is very expensive;

(b) whether a large number of patients are unable to meet such exorbitant expenditure on treatment causing their death;

(c) if so, whether Government have taken any measures to provide free treatment to cancer patients in the country;

(d) if not, the reasons therefore; and

(e) the estimated loss of lives on account of cancer in the country every year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) to (d)- Since cancer involves a Multi Model approach (Surgery/ Chemotherapy/Radiodiagnosis), it is generally prolonged and require considerable expenses on the part of the provider of cancer care service. Moreover due to the high cost of equipment and instruments used in diagnosis and treatment of cancer, the cost of cancer management is costly.

However, it may be noted that in Government hospitals/medical colleges/Government supported Regional Cancer Centres, a large number of patients are either being treated free of cost or at a nominal charges for diagnostic and therapeutic procedures involved in cancer treatment as compared to the private or corporate hospitals. The Chemotherapy drugs for treatment of cancer are usually expensive. Nevertheless, the cheaper Chemotherapy drugs or combinations are given as alternative, which may be almost equally effective.

(e) At present cancer is the 8th leading cause of death and therefore an important specific disease entity in India. As per the mortality statistics of cause of death (1987) by Registrar General of India under the scheme of Medical Certification of causes of death, cancer accounted for 3.5% of all deaths. It is estimated that cancer deaths may be 3 lakhs annually.

Enforcing Drug Control

694. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item, "Enforce strict Drug Controls; Experts" appearing in the Newsline dated 1st July, 2000;

(b) if so, the reaction thereto; and

(c) what steps are proposed to be taken to address the